

The Tazewell Republican

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—BY—
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Editor and Proprietor.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1897.

WHAT IS THE REASON?

It is no unusual thing to hear persons complain about the scarcity of money in Tazewell County. If it is scarce, what is the cause? Is it occasioned by a general dearth of circulating medium or is it produced by other causes? If the people of a section or county are larger buyers than they are sellers for any considerable period of time the result will be a greater outflow than inflow of currency, and it naturally follows that in a given period a dearth of money will be experienced. This, most likely, is the reason why money is scarce in Tazewell County. Most of the money it gets in exchange for agricultural products, and its surplus productions are of a character that are marketable only at certain seasons, covering about five months of each year. Lambs and wool, cattle and hay are the money products of Tazewell, and from those things the county people obtain the currency which they give in exchange for manufactured goods and all articles of merchandise.

In the summer months the lambs and wool are disposed of and money becomes more plentiful. In the autumn the cattle and hay are put upon the market and times generally get flush at that season in Tazewell. During the winter months the receipts for these products are exhausted in paying for merchandise and things the people do not produce.

There is one thing which Tazewell County does not produce in sufficient quantity, whilst it is perfectly capable of doing so, that is wheat. There is an immense amount of money sent out annually for wheat and flour that ought to be kept at home. From a gentleman, who is a careful observer and calculator, we have learned that at least one hundred thousand dollars were sent from the county in 1896 for wheat and flour. We expect this amount is greater than all the profits realized on cattle sold that year. How can our people expect to have sufficient money when there is such an unnecessary drain upon them? There are no better wheat lands in the world than are to be found in most of the communities of Tazewell. With careful preparation of the soil and the use of modern methods of seeding, as great yield at harvest time can be realized, per acre, as can be gotten anywhere. Suppose Tazewell county had raised enough wheat and corn in 1896 to furnish the bread it consumed, would not the financial situation have been better?

This year the same thing is going on that was experienced in 1896. Thousands of dollars are being sent to the West and other places for wheat and flour and corn that ought to have been produced in Tazewell. The mills at this place and at Cedar Bluff are now forced to buy the grain they are using from foreign sections. The money we ought to have has been sent away for bread and more will have to go. This enormous outflow is one of the prime causes for the existing financial distress.

A great many farmers in the county say they can't afford to raise wheat and corn. This is a mistaken idea, and one which is doing more damage than any other one thing. The indications are that a much larger crop of wheat will be harvested this year than was reaped in 1896. If this should be so, we will find a much better condition existing next year. We trust the farmers will see the situation as it is and sow largely increased crops the coming fall, making our county produce a surplus rather than have it dependent on other sections for the bread its people consume. Raise more wheat, raise more corn, raise enough bread for the county and there will be less complaint about the scarcity of money.

OUR CRITIC ANSWERED.

There are some tasks that are very unpleasant in editorial life, not because they are difficult to perform but by reason of their littleness. When we commenced the publication of THE REPUBLICAN we promised our readers to avoid, if possible, multiplying in its editorial content. Personal journalism ought to be sent to the rear, occasionally it is almost unavoidable. If we are forced to disregard the promises made in our salutatory in replying to an article in the Clinch Valley News of last week, we will ask the indulgence of our readers and beg pardon for devoting so much of our space to so trifling a thing.

The controversy has grown out of a charge made by the News that the Republican majority in Tazewell County was secured by corrupt methods, by purchase of what it called the floating vote assisted by the solid negro vote. In our last issue we denounced the charge as untrue; and the News, in its vain efforts to justify and avoid the charge of misrepresentation, has tried to shield itself from the charge of a slander by the use of other misrepresentations and absurd statements. We don't know which to be the most

astonished at, the dense ignorance or the persistent recklessness of the News man. He undertakes to break the force of the unanswerable facts and figures which we employed to show that his charges were not true by using the individual political record of the editor of the REPUBLICAN. What has our record or even that of the News man (which latter is of doubtful character) to do with the question at issue? It is true that the editor of the REPUBLICAN in the last fifteen years has voted for several Democratic candidates, and even worked for their election, being impelled to do so by hostility to Mahone and Mahoneism. Under similar circumstances he would do the same thing again. The News man, however, has failed to learn our record as an editor. For ten or more years we edited the PATRIOT-HERALD, at Marion, which was intensely Republican. So we are no neophyte in Republican journalism.

The News, as a further defense of its course charges the REPUBLICAN with having slandered the Democrats of the State in discussing the constitutional convention question. This shows to what desperate straits the News man is driven. For there is not one particle of truth in the charge made against the REPUBLICAN. In discussing the constitutional convention question we never intimated that it was being supported by the Democratic party in Virginia, because we knew that the most influential Democratic papers in the State and the most of the thinking men of the party were opposed to a convention. The advocates of a convention we always referred to as men who called themselves Democrats. We knew that a vast number of the members of the Democratic party were opposed to a convention because of the announced purpose of its advocates to restrict suffrage by imposing an educational and property qualification. Democratic papers said harsher things about the political tricksters than we did. We knew the people of Virginia were opposed to such an undemocratic scheme; and the result at the late election proves that the measure was supported only by tricksters, bitter partisans and a few shallow thinkers like the News man. The News in the very issue in which it charges us with slandering the Democratic party has the brazen impudence to suggest, under the head of "The Constitution Amendments," an amendment providing for an educational qualification for voting. Those who read our articles about the constitutional convention can say whether we have slandered such Democracy as the News represents.

The Democrats of Tazewell are to be pitied for having a defender like the News, who in trying to fasten what it terms a sin on the Republicans, says, "neither did we assert that the democrats were free from sin. We deprecate the unlawful use of money in the elections in our own as well as other political parties. But it has so happened in Tazewell, that the Republicans have had more of it than the Democrats or knew better how to use it." There is an old saying that "it is a filthy bird which befouls its own nest." This the News man has succeeded in doing, by admitting that the degree of its party in sinning has been measured by its financial ability to do so. Ought we to congratulate the Democrats of Tazewell upon having an editor who is so much better (?) than his own party? So far as we are concerned we do not know of the unlawful use of money by either party, and when referring to the editor of the REPUBLICAN, the News says: "Two years and better ago, our statement that the Republicans used money in the Ninth District and Tazewell County to help things along, would have been cheered by him with a mighty voice" it utters an untruth, by whomsoever conceived or suggested.

We have already devoted too much space to the utterances of the News, but feel that we ought to say something about its figures on the colored vote. In one article it places the negro vote in the entire county at 1,098, and in the other one, in which it assails us, it asserts with all positiveness that there are about 1,100 colored votes in this and the Clear Fork districts. This shows how reckless and haphazard the News is in its statements. From the best information we can gather there were not over 500 colored votes polled in this and Clear Fork districts last year. We have only been able to ascertain the negro vote cast at three precincts in these two districts, and from them make an approximate calculation of the entire colored vote in the two districts. While our figures may be some less than they ought to be, we are satisfied the editor of the News can never sustain his contention, by several hundreds. We are equally satisfied that there were not over 700 colored votes polled in Tazewell County last November.

We stood the article of the News, "Our Critics Again," pretty well until we reached the closing paragraph, "Similia similibus curantur," which the News man construed to mean "erate dose." We can not find the word "erate" in our dictionary, but if it is descriptive of the article in the News, "Our Critics Again," we would say it means silly dose.

The Richmond Times realizing "that the fight this year in all the individual States is to be a fight for Bryan and free silver and the Chicago platform," and seeing that the Virginia Democracy in State Convention will commit itself to the Chicago platform and Bryanism, advises the gold Democrats not to participate in primaries and mass meetings that will send delegates to the Roanoke Convention.

The latest reports from Cuba indicate that the cause of the patriots is as bright

as it has ever been, if not brighter. Gen. Gomez has a well equipped army of about 40,000 men, and his forces are free from disease. This is encouraging to the friends of the insurgents.

CONTRADICTORY CHARGES.

How the Democrats Praise the Republicans When Trying to Accuse Them.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Rep.) It is amusing to place together the two leading charges made against the Republican party by the Democratic press. The first is that the business depression of the last four years was caused by latent conditions prepared by the Republicans and handed over in 1893. The second is that a full tide of national prosperity has not appeared during the second month of the new Republican Administration. These accusations are contradictory and damaging excuses. They not only conflict but involve a compliment not intended. As for the subtlety of the Republicans in preparing a disguised panic and unloading it upon the Democrats, that is a fantastic idea. Up to the last month of the Harrison administration the Treasury reported a surplus. Then the Democrats took hold, having been entrusted with full control of the Government for the first time in more than thirty years. It was their business to avert dull times and strengthen the national revenue, and they should have thanked fortune that the difficulties were only "latent," not yet visible or urgent.

But a few months of untrammelled Democratic rule elapsed until the people discovered that the country had fallen into incapable hands. Everything went wrong. The national revenue fell off, and a heavy deficit appeared to take the place of the long-established surplus. An insufficient and politically shapeless tariff bill was passed. It had the double fault of violating the pledge of the party platform and of failing to meet current expenses. The industries of the country languished, business confidence was lost and new ventures were indefinitely postponed. From this state of demoralization and distress sprang a revolutionary Democratic fusion and attack upon the standard of values, threatening to reduce it one-half. Here was Pandora's box with a vengeance, and yet the Democratic explanation is that the Republicans had laid a trap years before. Why the Democrats failed to avoid all traps is not cleared up. It is imperative that a party in full control should at least have that much gumption. On the 4th of March, a little more than two months ago, the Republican party took charge in Washington of a large assortment of Democratic debts, deficits, complications and tariff absurdities, and at the same moment, the Democrats demanded immediate good times. Mr. Bryan is reported to have recently asked a crowd, "Have you seen the General?" In reply to the query, "What General?" his reply was, "Why, General Prosperity." In less than ninety days the Republicans are expected to restore the country to buoyant conditions. They have never failed heretofore to do it in due time. Whatever of statesmanship and courage was necessary they have supplied. They are now engaged in framing the sort of tariff they are pledged to, which is precisely where Democrats showed one of their varieties of bad faith. The inheritance from the Democrats is not in the form of "latent" evils. They are numerous, positive and pressing. But the Republican party expect to make short the work of them on this as on former occasions.

MORE SILVER PRODUCED.

An Increase of 1,900,000 Ounces During 1896.
Washington, June 2.—Mr. Preston, the director of the mint, has about completed his figures of the gold and silver production in the United States during the calendar year 1896. He finds the production of gold to have been about \$53,000,000, an increase of over \$250,000 as compared with 1895. The production of silver is given as 57,700,000 fine ounces, an increase of 1,900,000 ounces over 1895.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Gen. "Dan" Roggles, who died in Fredericksburg, Va., on Tuesday, was a veteran of three wars—the Seminole, Mexican and Civil.

Ex-Governor John P. Altgeld, of Illinois, has been asked by a Democratic organization of Brooklyn to deliver the Fourth of July oration in the Academy of Music, in that city. He has accepted the invitation provided his health will permit.

Mrs. McKinley, without ostentation and without publicity, sent last week to a number of the Canton, O., Women's Relief Corps, a large box of roses, lilies and other flowers, to be used to decorate the soldiers' graves in that vicinity on Memorial Day.

Mr. Henry Labouchere, the editor of London Times, said in a recent article in that journal that "not only are ocean liners greatly overcrowded, but there is an insufficient supply of life boat accommodations." Mr. Labouchere has a habit of startling his readers and this article is looked on as another of his attempts.

Elijah Lovejoy, who was shot by a mob in Alton, Ill., after many vain attempts to establish an anti-slavery paper in 1837, and in whose behalf Wendell Phillips made his first great speech, will soon have a monument erected to his memory in the city in which he died. The Illinois Legislature voted \$25,000 for the purpose and the citizens of Alton \$5000 more.

Gen. Lew Wallace, of Indiana, who was at one time minister to Turkey, in speaking of the report that Osman Pasha was really an American named Crawford, said: "I knew both men and I am fully prepared to stamp the story as false." General Wallace also said that the Sultan is a very agreeable person, and, if he had confidence in a man, observed no formality.

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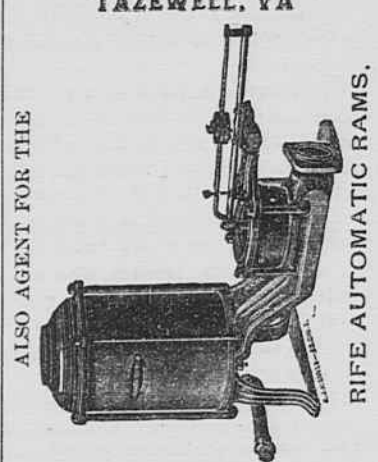
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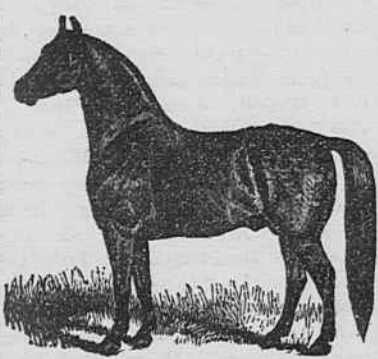
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